

"Clustered" Competencies for MIDDLE GRADES

You are responsible for meeting all of the knowledge and performance standards and additional requirements for this endorsement. To assist you in writing to the knowledge and performance standards, they have been grouped or "clustered" into the following topical areas. These areas are incorporated in the scoring rubric for this endorsement. Please write to these "clustered" competencies.

Professional Knowledge:

- PK 1 Knowledge of the developmental nature and needs of early adolescents and ability to apply this knowledge to all aspects of Middle Grades practice
- PK 2 Knowledge of and ability to collaborate with parents to promote parent-teacher and parent-student communication about student learning and to enhance parent-student relationships
- PK 3 Knowledge of and ability to develop and implement middle grades curriculum and instruction
- PK 4 Knowledge of and ability to implement middle grades organizational techniques
- PK 5 Knowledge of and ability to integrate embedded literacy strategies throughout the middle grades curriculum

In addition, you must address the knowledge and performance standards and requirements for ONE OR MORE of the four content areas below:

Knowledge and Performance Standards – English Language Arts:

- ELA 1 A minor in English or Comparative Literature or the equivalent in undergraduate and/or graduate coursework
- ELA 2 Knowledge of the processes, principles, and dimensions of oral language and literacy development
- ELA 3 Knowledge of a wide variety of early adolescent literature and media
- ELA 4 Knowledge of literary elements and strategies for textual analysis
- ELA 5 Knowledge of the purposes and elements of language
- ELA 6 Knowledge of the developmental progression of phonological awareness, spelling, and morphological analysis
- ELA 7 Knowledge of the processes and components of reading comprehension and fluency

ELA 8 Knowledge of the process of writing development and the components of effective written expression

ELA 9 Knowledge of and ability to implement in a comprehensive literacy program instructional strategies to support development of oral and written language, literature appreciation and analysis, written expression, and reading comprehension and fluency

ELA10 Knowledge of and ability to assess the various dimensions of literacy development and adapt literacy instruction to meet the needs of individual students

Knowledge and Performance Standards – Mathematics:

M 1 A minor in mathematics, or the equivalent in undergraduate and/or graduate coursework.

M 2 Knowledge of the process of development of mathematical thinking, common misconceptions in the mathematical reasoning of early adolescent students, and implications for instruction

M 3 Knowledge of and ability to apply state and national standards and specific content, concepts, and skills recommended for middle grades teachers in *The Mathematical Education of Teachers* (CBMS, 2001) in the areas of:

- a. number and operations
- b. algebra and functions
- c. geometry and measurement
- d. data analysis, statistics, and probability

M 4 Knowledge of the history of mathematics and roles of mathematicians

M 5 Knowledge of equity issues in mathematics education and ability to implement specific instructional strategies that promote equity

M 6 Knowledge of and ability to implement appropriate middle/secondary mathematics teaching methods

Knowledge and Performance Standards – History and Social Sciences:

SS 1 A minor in history, political science, economics, or geography, or a combination thereof, or the equivalent in undergraduate and/or graduate coursework.

SS 2 Knowledge of methods of historical and social scientific investigation and critical evaluation and ability to incorporate these into instruction

- SS 3 Knowledge of and ability to apply state and national standards and content, concepts, and skills in the areas of:
- a. History
 - b. Cultural Geography
 - c. Diversity, Unity, Identity, and Interdependence
 - d. Citizenship
 - e. Economics
- SS 4 Knowledge of and ability to implement appropriate middle/secondary social studies teaching methods

Knowledge and Performance Standards – Science:

- S 1 A minor in biology, chemistry, physics, or earth/environmental/atmospheric sciences, or a combination thereof, or the equivalent in undergraduate and/or graduate coursework.
- S 2 Knowledge of the process of development of scientific thinking, common misconceptions in scientific reasoning held by early adolescent students, and implications for instruction
- S 3 Knowledge of and ability to apply state and national standards and content, concepts, and skills in the areas of:
- a. Life Sciences
 - b. Physical Sciences
 - c. Earth, Environmental, and Atmospheric Sciences
 - d. Living and Non-Living Systems
- S 4 Knowledge of the scientific method, investigatory processes and procedures, roles and responsibilities of scientists, and history of science
- S 5 Knowledge of equity issues in science education and ability to implement specific instructional strategies that promote equity
- S 6 Knowledge of and ability to implement appropriate middle/secondary science teaching methods

Additional Requirements:

A minimum of a practicum, or the equivalent, at the middle grade level (5-9) in any of the core content areas. The “core” content areas are math, science, social studies, and English.